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**For immediate release**

**STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER MICHAEL O’RIELLY  
ON HOUSE PASSAGE OF RAY BAUM’S ACT OF 2018**

WASHINGTON, March 6, 2018. – “I applaud the House passage of the Repack Airwaves Yielding Better Access for Users of Modern Services Act of 2018. Thanks to the leadership of Representatives Walden and Pallone and Senators Thune and Nelson, this package represents a bipartisan, bicameral compromise that both makes good on a promise to broadcasters to hold harmless full power television and radio broadcasters in the incentive auction and puts the country on an important path towards leadership in 5G.

Specifically, by including both MOBILE NOW and the Spectrum Deposits Act in today’s compromise, it provides an important technical fix and lays important groundwork for the FCC to proceed with key spectrum auctions. Once this becomes law there are several large-scale spectrum auctions for mid-band and millimeter wave spectrum – especially the upper 37 GHz (37.6-38.6 GHz) – that the Commission needs to conduct in the very near future.

Finally, while the final compromise omitted key FCC process reform, I expect this issue to be revisited in Congress or through our own initiative and look forward to improving the transparency and functionality of the Commission.”

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*This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action. See MCI v. FCC, 515 F.2d 385 (D.C. Cir. 1974).*